

Lincoln Association For Traditional Arts

Celebrating 25 years. News To Put A Little LAFTA In Your Life !

L A F T A

Fall Winter 2006 - 2007

PO Box 30561 Lincoln, NE 68503-0561 402-580-8656

Greg Brown is coming back to LAFTA January 20th



On Saturday, January 20, at 7:30 p.m. at the Loft at the Mill, 8th and P St., please join LAFTA in welcoming back our neighbor to the east, singer/songwriter **Greg Brown** to Lincoln.

Greg Brown's mother played electric guitar, his grandfather played banjo, and his father was a Holy Roller preacher in the Hacklebarney section of Iowa, where the Gospel and music are a way of life. Brown's first professional singing job came at age 18 in New York City, running hootenannies (folk singer get-togethers) at the legendary Gerdes Folk City. After a year, Brown moved west to Los Angeles and Las Vegas, where he was a ghostwriter for Buck Ram, founder of the Platters. Tired of the fast-paced life, Brown traveled with a band for a few years, and even quit playing for a while before he moved back to Iowa and began writing songs and playing in midwestern clubs and coffeehouses.

Brown's songwriting has been lauded by many, and his songs have been performed by Willie Nelson, Carlos Santana, Michael Johnson, Shawn Colvin, and Mary Chapin Carpenter. He has also recorded more than a dozen albums.

Red House Records and The Breast Cancer Fund (TBCF) announced that the CD *Going Driftless: An Artist's Tribute to Greg Brown* has raised over \$50,000 for TBCF, which advocates for the identification and elimination of environmental and other preventable causes of breast cancer. The CD features an all-star cast of women artists performing their favorite Greg Brown songs. The artists and Brown himself donated all their royalties to the Fund. His newest CD, *The Evening Call*, was released in August of 2006.

Opening for Greg Brown will be Iowa blues and rock 'n roll musician **Bo Ramsey**. Bo is internationally-recognized for his distinctive guitar work, song writing, record producing, and powerful stage presence. Part of a prominent long-time collaboration of Iowa musicians that includes Grammy nominee Greg Brown and former-Iowan (now Nashville's fastest-rising star) Kevin Gordon, Bo has played a prominent role in the development of the "Iowa Sound" — a unique style derived from regional influences that include Chicago blues, traditional folk, and the diverse musical offerings of Nashville, Memphis, St. Louis, Kansas City and Minneapolis.

The Greg Brown concert this year has been made possible by a special support grant from **Woods Charitable Fund, Inc.** of Lincoln NE to LAFTA in it's 25th year of bringing volunteer sponsored community concerts to Lincoln. For this concert only, special ticket pricing applies: Non members are \$25, LAFTA members and students are \$20. Children under the age of 12 are \$5. Last time Greg came to Lincoln it was a sell out, so buy your tickets early to make sure you have a seat! Tickets are available online at <http://lafta.nebraska.edu> or at the door the evening of the concert if it is not a sellout.

Photo by Bart Holmquist

Krista Deter to be featured at LAFTA House Concert January 27th.

On Saturday, January 27, 7:30 pm at 857 N 42nd. St. LAFTA's House Concert series will host an up and coming songwriter and performer, **Krista Deter**, who displays a versatility that is hard to categorize. She has been called everything from straight-up rock to straight-up country, to new folk, new country, and alt. country. Her songs are vignettes, telling stories of time and experience. Her musical intensity has been compared to that of Leonard Cohen and Laura Nyro.

Grammy-award winner Carrie Newcomer says "Krista Deter is one of the finest singer songwriters I've run across in years... with a voice that could sing the phone book and make it sound beautiful and compelling".

"(Her CD *Mudshow* is) a small miracle – intensive, wonderful...music...she would be good on every stage in the world." Rolling Stone Magazine

Since seating is limited, please call 402-466-4775 before the concert to reserve a seat. Artist donation is \$12 at the door.



Don't forget the FREE LAFTA 25th Celebration concert featuring John McCutcheon on April 14th at 6:30 pm in the Kimball Hall, 11th and Q

The Stringtown Castenets and LAFTA at Zoo Bar February 8th

Thursday, February 8th will find LAFTA hosting **The Stringtown Castenets** from 7:30 pm till close at the Zoo Bar. Get ready for music from New Orleans and the rural south; the evening will include cajun, zydeco, rhythm & blues, Mardi Gras classics, and a few surprises. These Lincoln-based musicians – **Jay Kriemer, Jerry Johnston, and Brad Krieger** – play in the tradition of New Orleans street musicians and use a mixture of traditional, invented, and re-invented instruments including guitar, bass, mandolin, accordion, claviola, frottoir, trumpet, baritone, harp, and percussion. This Mardi-Gras inspired show will have special pricing with members and students at \$5.00 and non members at \$6.00. Prices reminiscent of our concerts held 25 years ago.



LAFTA Contra dances still going strong

The first Saturday of each month from 7:30 - 10:30 PM. The Auld Rec Center in Antelope Park at 3130 Sumner Avenue reverberates with the sound of live music and dancing feet as another Contra Dance gets underway. Contra dancing is one of the traditional North American dance forms, with couples in long parallel lines responding to the directions of the caller prompting the next step.

It is one of the easiest types of dancing, with everyone succeeding at the very first dance they try. Dances are always taught before hand and walked through at least once. Beginning dance classes are taught at 7:30 the evening of the dance. You do not need to have a partner, as it is normal to dance with a new partner each dance. Just wear comfortable clothes and shoes preferably with leather soles. Although all dances are normally held at the Auld Rec Center, the June dance will be held at Northeast United Church of Christ at 62nd and Adams because of a schedule conflict.

All ages are welcome to the Contra dances with a suggested regular donation fee of \$6 for adults (\$15 per family, \$3 for students with children under 12 free. For more information, check the LAFTA web site links at <http://lafta.nebraska.edu>, or call Judi at (402) 464-3143 or (402)617-2483.



Keep those feet flying!



If dancing is your thing, check out the folk dancing available in Lincoln below:
International Folk Dancing: The Lincoln International Folk Dancers meet on Friday evenings in room 210, Mabel Lee Hall on the University of Nebraska City Campus. Call (402) 421-6627 or (402) 423-1261 for information.
Irish Folk Dancing: The Lincoln Irish dancers can be contacted by calling LuAnne at (402) 475-8674 or check the web at <http://irishdance.inetnebr.com/>.
Scottish Country Dancing: Call Nick or Jennifer at (402) 464-8914 for info.



So you want to be a Songwriter



The members of the Lincoln Songwriters Sweatshop have been meeting since 1995 and consist of seasoned music veterans and newbies just starting the field. The focus is encouragement of songwriting and growth in ability. New members are always welcomed and meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month in a member's home at 7:30 P.M. There is no cost or dues, just a desire to learn how to bring that music out. Call 488-0247 for more information or email kerrythekrause@yahoo.com. Please list songwriters in the about area of your message.

Another songwriter's group available in Lincoln is Nebraska 2 Nashville, the Nebraska chapter of the Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI), the world's largest not-for-profit trade organization dedicated to serving songwriters of all genres of music. It started in October 2004 and has been going strong ever since. Made up of amateur and professional songwriters, they write in a variety of genres. Meetings are held the third Saturday of every month at the Waverly SportsPage in Waverly, Neb. (13631 Energy Way), 1-4 p.m. or 2-5 p.m. There is no charge for NSAI members to attend the monthly meetings. Non-NSAI members can attend two monthly meetings at no charge; after that, cost is only \$10 per meeting.

In addition to monthly meetings, they host full-day workshops with pro songwriters from major music centers and perform their original music in various venues Nebraska-wide. Contact Robert DeBusk at 402-450-1057 or on the web at bobbymiles@inebraska.com.

Folk goes Tech! Buy your tickets or membership online!

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- Mon 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. "Exposition Flyer"
- Tue 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. "Tuesday Night Drive-In"
- Wed 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. "River City Folk"
- Wed 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. "Just Of The Fringe"
- Wed 8:30 - 10:00 p.m. "Radio Gumbo"
- Thurs 6:00 - 8:00 a.m. "A Prairie Sunrise"
- Thurs 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. "Celtic Heartland"
- Thurs 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. "The Acoustic Cafe"
- Fri 10:00 - Noon "TGI Femmes"

Other fine specialty shows have also featured our showcase artist, so keep on listening and supporting community radio at **KZUM!** "Powered by the Community"



A Great Big LAFTA Thank You To The Mill Coffee Shop!



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LAFTA Capital Improvement Campaign a Capital Success!

LAFTA members are nothing if not generous. They have proven it by making our capital campaign a success. To celebrate LAFTA's 25th Anniversary season the LAFTA Board decided to promote a campaign to raise funds to improve our sound system and performance space. Members may recall the new speakers and sound board that was purchased in 2005. Now we have funds to complete our sound system upgrade, and to replace our worn out stage. LAFTA wants to thank all of you who donated to our campaign, and on behalf of The Loft at the Mill, where our stage will be available for other groups to use as well, express our appreciation for your support of live music and performance in Lincoln. Dedicated members and volunteers make LAFTA the premier provider of live acoustic music in Lincoln. To-date we have raised over \$4,550 toward our goal of \$5,000. It's not too late to support LAFTA's capital campaign.

A special thanks goes to LAFTA Board members Nancy Anderson, Butch Krause and Randy Smith, who carried the bulk of the work load for this campaign.

Tom Franti, 2005-2007 LAFTA Board President

LAFTA Group Now Established at Yahoo.com

A LAFTA group has been established on the internet at Yahoo.com. All of you who have given LAFTA your email addresses are now members of this group unless you have opted out. This allows us to email you a reminder notification of an upcoming concert on a group basis without it be considered spam by internet filters. The addresses are used only for LAFTA business and are not shared in any manner. If you're not currently on the list and would like to receive the the reminder, just go to <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/lafta/> and sign on. Please list your name under the profile so we can keep everyone separate. If you decide you no longer want to participate, just hit the "remove me from this list" line in your email and we will no longer send you emails. There's no cost, muss or fuss to be a part of this group. We can also alert you to other folk events in town if you so choose. If you want only LAFTA event news, just email us and we'll set you up for only that information. Also, check out the photo section for past concert photos!

Is your membership current?

Please check your mailing label for the expiration date. Use the form on the back to renew or join.

DONATIONS: LAFTA is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization and will happily accept donations which are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. If you wish to make an additional gift to help preserve and promote the music you love, please check the appropriate donor box below and enclose your check.

Don't want to cut up the newsletter? Just go online at <http://lafta.nebraska.edu> and print a form or sign up online. Keep those ticket discounts rolling!



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The President's Corner with Tom Franti



Welcome to the New Year! We hope it is a great year for LAFTA. Why shouldn't it be? LAFTA is celebrating its 25th Anniversary season this year. For the past 25 years, in venues ranging from bars, to churches, to university auditoriums, to living rooms, to two different Loft spaces, LAFTA has provided Lincoln with the best in local and national, traditional and contemporary folk music.

And we will do so again this year with a great spring schedule you can read about in this newsletter. Our spring season will end with our Anniversary Party, a thank you to LAFTA patrons and to the city of Lincoln, in the form of a free concert featuring Lincoln's own **Dr. John Walker**, and nationally renowned folk artist **John McCutcheon**. Each of these artists has been performing in Lincoln for as long as LAFTA has been around - 25 years. Bring your friends and join us at Kimball Recital Hall on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus for this May 14 celebration, brought to you in part by Woods Charitable Fund. And when you are there remember to thank the LAFTA board members who make all this music possible. These folks are dedicated and passionate about folk music, and about bringing great live music to Lincoln. LAFTA is alive and well thanks to 25 years of volunteers. Let's see if we can keep it going.

Tom Franti, 2005-2007 LAFTA Board President

Here's to 25 more years!

Happy New Year and Thank You! Our Capital Improvement Fund Drive is a complete and total success because of wonderful people like you! The new stages should be in place for the next concert. This is why LAFTA is still going after 25 years. People who are willing to step forth to do the things necessary to accomplish the LAFTA mission and keep the program alive. Now we need more of you to step forward to serve on the LAFTA board.

A great many people have stepped forward in the past and it shows. Many times a featured artist states after a show that LAFTA has the most professional venue and people of any place they have performed at. From the staging to the sound man to the venue to host of the green room to the motel they stay at, it's all done on a professional basis by the kindest of people. That says a lot, especially for a volunteer organization!

We (the LAFTA board) want to keep it that way for the next 25 years and improve on it if possible. And once again, we need you to step forward. Not only with your attendance, but with your comments on how we can improve and with your willingness to become part of LAFTA. Currently we are short a board member, unfilled since the last election. We have another election coming soon for other expiring board members. We need your help.

Specifically, we'd like to find someone who would be interested in increasing our membership base. Someone who would visit with folks when they buy tickets to inform them of membership benefits. Who would run the fall membership drive. A person that loves the music and concerts and wants to see the program continue. With a bigger membership base, LAFTA could consider offering more benefits, such as a discounted season ticket or other amenities.

We'd also like to find someone who could write grant proposals, such as the one that allowed us to afford a concert by Greg Brown. The cost of bringing in a performer is increasing each year and moderate attendance limits our choice in who to consider for the LAFTA stage.

A LAFTA board member helps set up and tear down for the concert, attends a board meeting once a month and of course does all the work necessary to contact the artists and promote the concert plus the secretary, treasurer and president jobs. If that is not for you but you could do grants or run a membership drive, we also love to have volunteers. If you'd like to help, please step forward and talk to any board member or call 402-580-8656 so we can contact you. We appreciate all the help you can give!

Butch Krause

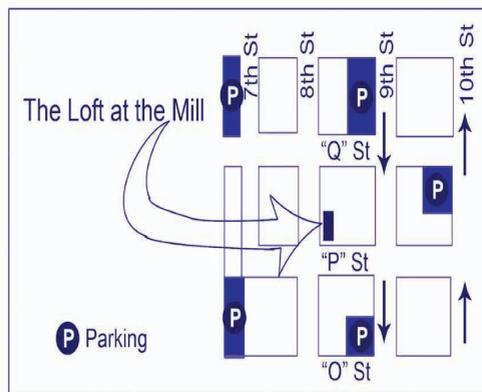
CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

HOUSE CONCERT
Brooks Williams
 Thursday March 8, 7:30 pm. \$15
 Call for reservations 402-466-4775

Bluegrass Crusade
 Sat. Mar. 10, 7:30 pm. Loft at the Mill

FREE 25TH YEAR CELEBRATION CONCERT WITH
John McCutcheon
 Sat. April 14, 6:30 pm. Kimball Recital Hall, UNL Campus

Check the web for updates and more information at <http://lafta.nebraska.edu>



Made possible with the support of



through funds from the Nebraska Legislature and National Endowment for the Arts.
www.nebraskaartscouncil.org

Number 1 2006-2007 Season

The LAFTA NEWSLETTER is published several times annually by the Lincoln Association for Traditional Arts, P O Box 30561, Lincoln, NE 68503-0561. LAFTA is a non-profit organization, committed to the promotion of folk music and folk arts in the Lincoln area. For membership or other information, please call (402) 580-8656 or check the website at <http://lafta.nebraska.com>.

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 Supporting writers listed by column.



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*Top photo: Bluegrass Crusade March 10, Bottom Left
Brooks Williams March 8 House Concert, Bottom
Right John McCutcheon Free Concert April 14.*



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